

COMMENTS TO FCC REGARDING DOCKET NUMBER: 98-67

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I understand your time is precious. I will, therefore, be brief and forthright – trusting you to read my comments in their entirety.

Imagine if you will:

It is midnight on the west coast. Your child is feverish. You call your mother (father / spouse / etc) who seems to always have ‘home remedies’ for these childhood illnesses. After a quick conversation, your child is resting peacefully.

OR

It is Sunday. Your pals decide to order a pizza to watch the game. After a quick 5 minutes on the phone, the pizza is on its way.

OR

Unexpected company drops by on a Friday night. You call the local Chinese take-out place to order in a quick dinner.

Now imagine this:

YOU CANNOT DO ANY OF THIS.

Why? Because you are Deaf. The use of the telephone traditionally has been a telecommunication device for the deaf. While functional, this machine is NOT convenient, quick, or expedient to use. The Video Relay Service (VRS) is.

By ignoring the NECA recommended fee for service, the FCC had DRAMATICALLY effected the lives of Deaf people. The FCC has denied Deaf / H.O.H. people access to quick and efficient telephone access on demand. By slashing these fees, the FCC has dictated the hours VRS can operate and the quality of the interpreters provided.

Why should ANY taxpaying voter be considered deserving of ‘less’ solely based on disability? Isn’t that called ‘discrimination’?

Please reconsider this proposal. Please provide the means necessary to give ALL America’s citizens the ability to communicate whenever and however they choose.

Sincerely,

David Alan Morrison: Sacramento, CA